admitted later in the House of Commons that to accuse the Labour Government of intending to raid the Post Office Savings Bank deposits, was absurd, like accusing a cook of intending to raid the savoury to improve the soup's flavour; but by this time the return to Parliament of 500 supporters of the National Government, Mr. Churchill among them, had been secured.

On the morning the election results were published, in hotel breakfast-rooms and other places where strangers congregate, habitual reserve was broken down and happy handshakes were exchanged. A great sigh of relief went up from income-tax payers and recipients of unearned increment. It was like a dream come true—the Labour Party almost obliterated, Mr. Lansbury the solitary ministerial survivor, a one-man shadow-Cabinet, and 400 Conservative Members of Parliament with a Doctor's Mandate and no restrictive pledges whatsoever. The very magnitude of the victory aroused qualms among some who had contributed to it. Professor Gilbert Murray, in a letter to the *Manchester Guardian,* explained that though he had voted for the National Government, he proposed to vote Labour at the next election. This virtuous decision indicated his irritation at having unnecessarily violated his principles. Like all good Liberals, he only believed in supporting Conservatives when there was a possibility that they might otherwise be defeated. There may have been some others who, like Professor Gilbert Murray, looked forward to neutralising their support of the National Government when they were next given

an opportunity of voting, but most were full of unqualified delight at its great victory. A spiritual renaissance had taken place; a new era of what one writer called 'courageous and clean budgets', had begun. The *Morning Post* explained the change by the preference of the English electorate for being represented in Parliament by gentlemen, though without adducing any evidence in support of this contention; and the *Daily Herald* mournfully admitted that a defeat had been suffered too devastating even to be called a moral victory. On his way to Geneva to preside over